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VEGETABLE Situation

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE



THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

CONTENTS

	Page
Summary	3
Recent Developments and Outlook	4
Fresh Vegetables	4
Processed Vegetables	7
Potatoes	11
Sweetpotatoes	15
Mushrooms	15
Dry Edible Beans	15
Dry Edible Peas	17
List of Tables	28

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Principal contributors
Charles W. Porter
Joseph Combs

Commodity Economics Division

Economic Research Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

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SUMMARY

Fresh vegetable supplies are moderately smaller than last winter since acreage of 13 winter vegetables is 12 percent less this season. Thus far this winter, shipments of several leading vegetables—lettuce, cabbage, celery, and carrots—have been less than last year. But movement has been heavier for tomatoes and sweet corn from Florida and broccoli and cauliflower from California. Imports from Mexico through late January were light.

Imports of tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, and eggplant through Nogales, Arizona, are increasing seasonally.

Stocks of storage onions on January 1 were 7 percent larger than a year earlier. Most of the gain was in New York and Michigan where the yellow globe variety predominates. Prices are less than a year ago for most varieties except large whites which are very scarce.

The combined pack of canned and frozen vegetables in 1974 again appeared moderately larger than the previous season. Adding packs to carryover, total supplies of processed vegetables are moderately larger for the 1974/75 marketing season, though canned corn, a major item, is in very short supply.

Much of the larger 1974 pack of canned vegetables went into concentrated tomato products—items for which complete pack and stocks data do not exist. Supplies of the other 10 important canned items counted were only slightly larger than a year ago. Beginning supplies of snapbeans, beets, sauerkraut, and tomato juice are larger, but supplies of corn, peeled tomatoes, and lima beans are smaller. Supplies of pickles, peas, and tomato puree were about the same as a year earlier. At the beginning of this marketing season, wholesalers and retailers bought actively to replenish depleted supplies, but trade movement has slackened markedly in recent weeks. Currently, many packers are offering promotional allowances, and in a few instances, list prices have been shaved slightly to stimulate movement.

Supplies of frozen vegetables on January 1 were 14 percent more than 1974. Even with ample supplies available, disappearance of the three major items—peas, corn, and snap-beans has lagged behind a year earlier. Recent price cuts may be extended in order to move supplies which are larger than a year ago, but less burdensome than other recent years.

Despite ample supplies, wholesale and retail prices of processed vegetables rose more during 1974 than in any

single year in recent history. Cannery and freezers experienced increased costs for all major inputs—labor, energy, containers, and raw product. Undoubtedly these higher prices have restricted consumption thus far this marketing season.

The 1974 fall potato crop was a record large 288 million cwt. 13 percent more than the small 1973 harvest and 7 percent above the previous record set in 1970. High early season processing contract prices were reflected in the U.S. average December price of \$3.45 per cwt. This compared with \$3.99 in 1973 when supplies were short. Grower prices are lowest in the East and Midwest where supplies are much heavier relative to a year earlier.

A substantial cut in spring acreage is expected this season—a normal response to the record large storage stocks remaining to be sold. Grower prices may show some strength late in the storage season.

In seven major processing States, only 3 percent more tonnage was used for freezing and dehydrating as of January 1. Despite the large supply of available raw product, processors apparently weren't eager to add more to ample supplies of finished products on hand. Frozen french fry stocks on January 1 were 24 percent

more than January 1, 1974. Demand for almost all important processed potato products has eased in recent weeks.

Although stocks data are not available for dehydrated potato flakes and granules, recent wholesale price declines suggest a buildup of stocks for these products as well. With ample supplies and some slackening in demand, wholesale processed potato prices may move slightly lower in the months ahead.

Record large dry bean output in 1974 means abundant supplies through August 1975, with white beans more plentiful than colored. Unless exports move up sharply, a large quantity of beans is expected to be carried into the 1975/76 marketing season. As a result, growers are expected to reduce 1975 plantings. Furthermore, in certain dry bean areas, other field crops may appear to be more favorable alternatives this year.

Export markets are likely to absorb more beans than were shipped in the previous season. However, several other nations besides the United States also have substantial export potential this year. The domestic use of dry beans does not usually change greatly from year to year, and may increase only moderately this season.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTLOOK

FRESH VEGETABLES

With 12 percent less acreage devoted to fresh market vegetables, total supplies available for the winter quarter are substantially smaller than a year earlier. Furthermore, imports from Mexico were relatively light up to the end of January, as rain and cool weather held up tomato harvesting on a reduced acreage in the Culiacan District. Other Mexican-grown vegetable shipments to this country are off sharply, too. It is likely that movement to this country will pick up rapidly during February and March, but a new record of total shipments to this country does not seem in prospect for 1975.

Stocks of storage onions on January 1 were larger this season, with prices for most varieties very low except for large whites, which are scarce.

Thus far this winter, domestic shipments of most leading vegetables—lettuce, cabbage, celery, and carrots—have been less than a year earlier. But movement has been larger for tomatoes and sweet corn from Florida, and broccoli and cauliflower from California. Favorable yields of Florida corn have helped maintain volume from a smaller acreage.

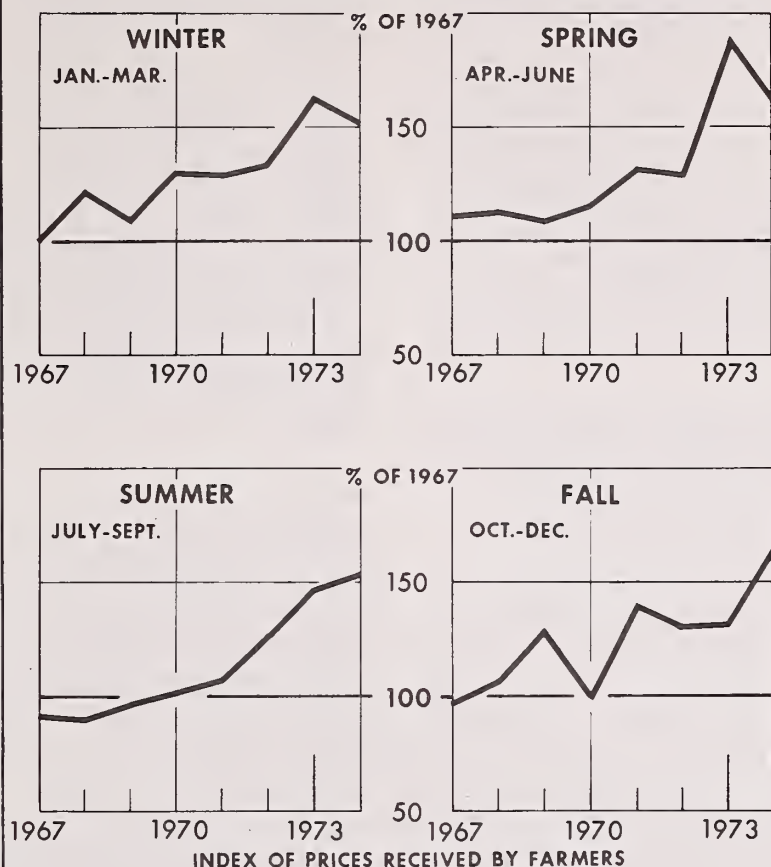
Grower prices for fresh vegetables this past fall were

sharply higher than the relatively low level of fall 1973. January proved to be another "high priced month" because of generally light marketings. February and March prices are likely to be lower than January because lettuce prices are expected to drop with heavier supplies coming on, and imports of Mexican tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, melons, and onions will be increasing seasonally, too. Compared with a year earlier, grower prices the first quarter of 1975 will be higher than 1974 when winter vegetables were in more abundant supply.

Retail fresh vegetable prices will follow the trend set by farm prices, with higher levels the first quarter this year. Retail prices will exceed both the first and the last quarters of 1974 (potatoes are excluded from these comparisons).

A sharp rise in rail freight rates has caused a massive shift in the mode of transport of vegetables thus far in 1975. The first 3 weeks of January saw railcar loadings of fresh market vegetables drop by 60 percent compared with a year ago. Trucks were used instead. The long term trend, which has favored trucks over rail use, previously had always moved at a gradual pace. Even if there is to be some counteracting rate adjustment, usually the rails never regain all the produce hauling business lost to them. In this instance, a court order temporarily blocked this rail rate rise effective the end of January.

FRESH VEGETABLE PRICES



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Prospects for Leading Items

Lettuce

The industry can expect a moderately smaller lettuce crop than a year earlier. Plantings in the winter producing States, at 64,500 acres, is 12 percent less than a year earlier. Winter harvested acreage has ranged widely from 54,000 to 82,000 since 1970, with production ranging from 11 to 14 million cwt. Average yields from the 1975 acreage would suggest a total crop close to 13 million cwt. The Imperial Valley of California, the leading winter shipping section, has 9 percent less acreage for harvest, while the Yuma district of Arizona, the second most important area, reports 14 percent less than last year. Mid-January shipments were sharply below a year earlier, due in part to a shift in varieties grown in part to the lingering effect of cold weather over the holidays which slowed crop development. The Imperial Valley harvest will probably gain momentum in February, and prices will respond by

moving lower than the \$4.00-5.00 per cwt quoted in mid-January. Elsewhere, Florida and Texas acreage both are less this year too. Shipments from these areas had hit their expected stride by mid-January. Each State has 3,000 acres this year.

Cabbage

Winter cabbage supplies are expected to hold below a year earlier as prospective acreage is 13 percent less. Total planting for winter harvest in Florida is low, but with December plantings roughly equal to the previous season, volume from that State may increase sometime during February. Heavy rains in Texas last October and November prevented growers from planting as much as they had intended. Storage stocks of old crop cabbage in New York were 57 million pounds on January 1, 15 percent more than last year. Carlot shipments of cabbage in January were substantially smaller this year.

January cabbage prices at major shipping points—Hastings, Florida, Lower Rio Grande Valley, and

western and central New York—were all substantially higher than a year ago. Large heads of Danish types from New York storages were up the least, but 1¾ bushel crates of new cabbage were selling for \$3.00-3.50, compared with \$2.00-2.25 last year.

Carrots

The prospective winter carrot acreage is 19 percent less than last year with acreages substantially smaller in both California and Texas, the two leading States. The Imperial Valley does not expect peak production until March. Early winter supplies from California came from Kern County and other Central Valley districts. Texas volume increased seasonally during January. Gradual, seasonally increasing supplies can be expected through late April.

With small supplies moving, Texas and California shipping point quotes in mid-January were in the range of \$5.30-5.50 per 48 lb. carton, roughly a dollar more than a year earlier.

Celery

Celery is one of the few winter vegetables where acreages and prospective supplies are relatively close to a year earlier. Winter acreage in California and Florida combined is 8 percent more this year, although combined shipments the first 3 weeks of January were almost equal to a year earlier.

Mid-January prices of \$2.88-3.00 per crate were 20-50 cents above a year earlier. Ample supplies of good quality are expected from both States the balance of the winter season. Relatively steady prices are expected.

Onions

The important Texas spring onion crop promises to be smaller and later this year. Heavy rains at planting time prevented many growers from seeding in early crop, though a very few fields may be harvested as early as mid-February. However, the spring harvest is usually underway in volume late in March. This year there will be only 17,500 acres, 3,500 less than a year earlier, with most of the reduction in the Rio Grande Valley, though 3,000 acres from the Winter Garden District are included. The prospect of larger stocks of storage onions may also have reduced Texas growers' enthusiasm for planting a larger spring acreage this year.

Storage onion stocks on January 1 were 7 percent more than in 1974. Most of the gain was in New York and Michigan where the yellow globe variety predominates. Western yellow Spanish from Idaho-Oregon are also selling at shipping point for sharply less than a year ago. Medium-size yellow Spanish brought \$1.25 per 50 pound sack in mid-January, versus \$6.25-7.50 a year earlier. Eastern yellow globes were bringing more money at \$1.70-1.90 for 50 pounds. White varieties were largely off the market by mid-January, with quotations seldom offered for

domestic stock. Limited supplies of Mexican whites were offered at \$6.60 to \$7.60 per sack at South Texas ports of entry. Usually that country continues to ship until the Texas deal gets underway in March. Crossings have been lighter this season because of cold weather and rain which have resulted in considerable seed stem, and generally high cullage.

Export activity this storage season has been a disappointment, primarily due to the lack of interest on the part of Japanese purchasers who usually draw on the Danvers variety, grown in western Oregon. Purchases there were light and remaining Danvers stocks, while not large in total, were sharply above a year ago. Movement of Canada has been larger, reflecting larger U.S. supplies.

With lighter supplies from Mexico expected and with reduced supplies likely from Texas, prices may move up moderately as the storage season draws to a close in March.

Tomatoes

Total winter tomato acreage in Florida is 2,300 acres less than a year ago. This alone would suggest a sharp drop in output, but the decline is all in the ground-grown crop, which is down 29 percent. Staked acreage is a tenth larger. With potential yields from staked acreage much heavier, production is likely to be down less than the total acreage reduction would suggest. Total production could approach the 1974 figure.

Peak winter production occurred in early January with shipping activity expected to hit a seasonal low between mid-February and mid-March. Then sometime in March domestic volume will again increase.

Border crossings of Mexican grown tomatoes (mostly at Nogales) as of the end of January have been less than half as much as a year ago with only 1,922 carlot equivalents against 3,942. Volume is expected to increase sharply during February with sustained heavy seasonal movement to mid-April. Staked acreage is estimated by a trade source to be 6,000 less this year in the Culiacan Valley. Total staked acreage is down to 16,300 according to this source. This does not include some tomato acreage in this area being grown for processing plants now being built. Mexican growers report sharply increased wage rates for harvesting and higher production costs.

There are also fewer growers shipping this season. As a result, U.S. buyers and brokers at Nogales were bidding actively for the limited supplies that were available during mid-January. At that time, extra-large fruit at Nogales was selling for 37 cents a pound in 2-layer boxes, versus 19 cents last year.

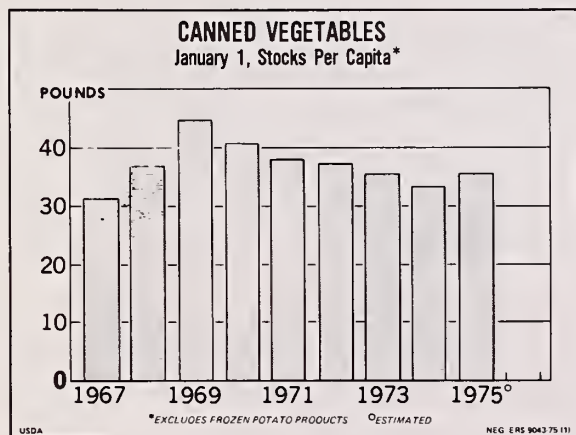
Shipping point prices for Florida tomatoes also have been sharply higher than a year ago, with green, medium and larger sizes ranging from \$9.00-11.00 per 30-pound carton. This averages out to 33 cents per pound, versus 18 cents last season. Riper fruit was worth the same price as the Mexican-grown product.

With Mexican shipments expected to increase sharply in February, some weakening of prices is to be expected then. By March, prices are likely to be sharply lower than late January levels, as both sections will be shipping heavily.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

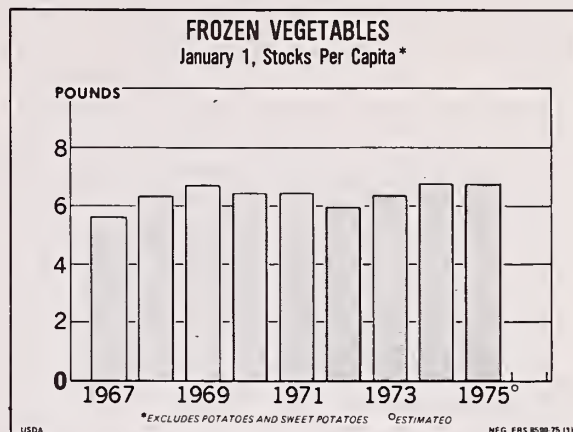
The combined pack of canned and frozen vegetables in 1974 was once again moderately larger than the previous season. This came at a time when the carryover of canned vegetables was the smallest in years, but frozen vegetable stocks at the beginning of the 1974 marketing season were larger than either of the two previous periods. Adding packs to carryover, total supplies of processed vegetables are moderately larger for the 1974/75 marketing season. For canned items no overall shortage is anticipated, though canned corn, a major item, is in very short supply this season.

Much of the larger 1974 pack of canned vegetables went in to concentrated tomato products—items where complete pack and stock data do not exist. As a result, combined supplies of the 10 other important canned items for which data are available are only slightly larger than a year ago. This reflected larger beginning supplies of snapbeans, beets, sauerkraut, and tomato juice, but smaller supplies of corn, tomatoes, and lima beans. Supplies of pickles, peas, and tomato puree were about the same as a year earlier. At the beginning of this marketing season, wholesalers and retailers bought actively to replenish depleted supplies, but trade movement has slackened markedly in recent weeks. Most observers attribute this development to the business recession, coupled with sharply higher prices for most canned items. Currently many packers are more generous in offering promotional allowances and in a few instances, list prices have been shaved slightly to stimulate movement.



Supplies of frozen vegetables on January 1 were 14 percent more than 1973. The 1974 combined pack of seven leading items was probably close to the same as a year earlier, but relatively large early season packs of

carrots, broccoli, and spinach helped to keep 1974 frozen vegetables adequately supplied throughout calendar year 1974. Even with ample supplies available, disappearance of the three major items—peas, corn, and snapbeans—has lagged behind a year earlier. Recent price cuts may be extended in order to move these currently large supplies. Even with these cuts, prices for most items remain sharply higher than a year earlier.



Prices Sharply Higher This Season

Despite ample supplies of processed vegetables this season, wholesale and retail prices rose more during 1974 than in any single year in recent history. Cannery and freezer have experienced increased costs for all major inputs—labor, energy, containers, and raw product. Undoubtedly these higher prices have restricted consumption thus far this season.

Larger Tonnage Produced

U.S. production of 13 processing vegetables was a tenth larger than 1973, but the value of these crops jumped by 63 percent to \$1.027 billion. Both harvested acreage and yields were larger than in either of the previous years. Grower prices per ton ranged from a fourth more to nearly double a year earlier.

The bulk of the tonnage gains came from tomatoes, although larger crops of peas, beets, broccoli, and kraut cabbage were harvested. There were also slight gains in spinach, carrots, asparagus, and snapbeans. Freeze damage cut the sweet corn crop in the Midwest, lima bean acreage and yields were off, and lower yields moved pickle production slightly below a year earlier. The 6-percent smaller sweet corn crop put a real crimp in supplies but a 14-percent larger pea crop helped to fill the gap. The 18-percent larger tomato crop went a long way toward replenishing depleted stocks of many tomato products. The sharp upward surge in tomato production resulted in that crop accounting for 56 percent of all processing vegetable tonnage in 1974. In 1973 the comparable figure was 52 percent.

Processing vegetable yields in 1974 were generally good. Tomato yields, at 20.8 tons per acre, were much better than 1973 but not a record. Yields of snapbeans, peas, spinach, and beets were also very good.

As mentioned previously, corn, cucumbers, and lima beans did not fare as well as a year earlier. Minnesota and Illinois sweet corn yields were cut back substantially while acreage abandonment was unusually heavy in Wisconsin this past season. Snapbeans yields turned out better than many trade observers expected, although considerably more acres were abandoned in Wisconsin this year.

Tomatoes

Led by a 20 percent gain in California processing tonnage, the tomato industry accepted more than 7.0 million tons for canning in 1974. Overall, production in the U.S. was up 18 percent. Late season gains in the Midwest were cut short by first frosts arriving 4 to 5 days earlier than normal in September. However, Ohio did post a 24-percent increase over a poor performance in 1973; Indiana was down 14 percent, compared with a year ago. East Coast output, principally New Jersey, was up substantially as well.

Most of the increased processing tomato tonnage was destined for paste and condensed soup manufacture, with some increased juice and puree pack as well. A product category apparently in moderately tight supply is the canned tomato itself, with a pack 4 percent smaller than 1973, certainly not a generous inventory. The total supply of canned tomatoes for 1974/75 was estimated 7 percent below a year earlier.

Canned tomatoes: Supply and disappearance

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>
Carryover	5.7	5.6	3.1
Pack	43.3	45.4	43.8
Total supply	49.0	51.0	46.9
Disappearance	43.4	47.9	

Tomato juice production rose in 1974 and the eighth larger marketing year supply may be more than packers would care to move. Generous availability of frozen concentrated orange juice during 1974/75 is a key element of the overall tomato juice environment. The outlook for tomato product marketing is mixed, due to the general business recession. Gains are likely to occur in packaged goods such as condensed soup, sauce, and "spaghetti" sauces. But retail takeaway of frozen specialty items that incorporate tomato paste could face added consumer resistance, as could be the volume of paste used by fast-food outlets.

Factory finished-product prices for tomato commodities are up substantially in the first quarter 1975. Compared with a year ago, 26 percent California

Canned tomato juice: Supply and disappearance

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>
Carryover	8.0	2.6	4.9
Pack	31.1	33.9	36.1
Total supply	39.1	36.5	41.0
Disappearance	36.5	31.6	

paste lists at \$16.70 per 96 6 oz. case up about 42 percent from a year ago. Tomato puree wholesale list prices are about 43 percent above year-ago levels. Whole and sliced canned tomatoes (Midwest-origin) are up 27 percent, currently around \$6.40 for a 24/303 case. While these prices are well above a year ago, further rises this market season are not likely since demand is not expected to show any new strength. Furthermore, the trade may suspect that paste and juice supplies are more than adequate for 1974/75 needs.

The magnitude of increased prices partially resulted from higher crop payments to growers. In 1974, the average price received by California tomato growers was \$63.80 per tons; a year before it was \$41.10. Ohio growers received \$66.50 per ton, a year-to-year gain of 46 percent. New Jersey tomato operators received the highest average crop value, \$74.50/ton, a rise of 50 percent from 1973. But other components of final price rose by the same or higher percentages. For example, reported food products income before Federal taxes for a major firm operating in California tomatoes rose 10 percent from fiscal year 1973. Nonetheless, other costs such as containers, direct labor, print/broadcast media, and interest expense were up. About the only cost components that were lower were charges to fixed costs (a higher tonnage facilitates control of this charge), and promotional allowances.

Snapbeans

Nationwide production of snapbeans for canning and freezing was 743,000 tons last year, only slightly higher than 1973. Reason: Unlike a more usual abandonment of 18-22,000 planted acres, weather forced processors to harvest, 31,000 fewer acres than they planted, with just a nominal increase in yields. But total canned snapbean production, up by 6 percent from 1973, was enough to compensate for declines in freezer activity. Total frozen

Canned snap beans: Supply and disappearance

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>
Carryover	5.9	2.7	5.2
Pack	47.6	55.0	57.1 ¹
Total supply	53.5	57.7	62.3 ¹
Disappearance ...	50.8	52.5	

¹ As of Nov. 1.

green beans packed in 1974: 239 million pounds, compared with 1973's 268 million. Yet the supply situation for both packs is enhanced by the inventory picture. Stocks of canned beans on January 1 were 34.3 million cases (24/303 cases) and frozen totals at the same point in time were 181 million pounds, together, the highest in years. The trade will not need to embark on an allocation program this winter, in marked contrast to early 1974.

Significant crop production increases occurred in Tennessee, Arkansas, Texas, and Wisconsin. Oregon and New York, first and third largest snapbean States, together marked time. In all States, growers received a season average price of about \$154.00 per ton, advancing from \$103.00 in 1973.

Freezers paid growers \$179.00 per ton in 1974; canners \$148.00. Trade reports of case movement hint that higher crop and processor costs are not likely to be uniformly reflected in wholesale prices. July 1-January 1 shipments in 1974 were estimated at 30.0 million cases, just 1 percent ahead of a year earlier. Although list prices for Eastern, chiefly New York State, 24/303 case fancy cuts were \$5.95 in early January, reported allowances of 20-30 cents per case were common. But the effective price is still substantially higher than winter 1974, when lists were about \$1.80 per case lower. On the retail side, price rises for processed snapbeans are unlikely for most of the first half of 1975. Movement data plus price histories will determine, as with other processing vegetables, acreage intentions for 1975. These will be reported for processing crops March 28 by the Statistical Reporting Service. The supply situation would seem to indicate a small reduction in bean acreage for this spring.

Sweet Corn

Hit by earlier-than-usual cold weather, the Midwest sweet corn crop in 1974 totaled 88 percent of the 1973 quantity grown for canning and freezing. With more usual spring planting and summer growing conditions, the crop would have easily matured before first-freeze dates. But spring and summer 1974 were not usual. So the Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin actual cases canned amounted to 20 percent less than a year earlier; frozen pack was down 38 percent.

The canned sweet corn pack totaled 46.4 million cases (24/303's), substantially lower than the 55.2 million cases in 1973. Stocks of canned sweet corn on January 1 were only 23.6 million cases, 28 percent less than the quantity on hand the same date a year earlier. Supply allocations and higher prices relative to other processed vegetables will be used to stretch these limited supplies.

National packs of frozen cut and on-cob corn were also lower in 1974; cut corn, at 291 million pounds, was off 1 percent while the on-cob total of 150 million pounds was 10 percent less than a year earlier.

Raw product tonnage of sweet corn moving to freezing plants was 2 percent less than 1973, while the

Canned sweet corn: Supply and disappearance

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>
Carryover	9.2 ¹	6.3	3.9
Pack	53.0	55.2	46.4
Total supply	62.2	61.5	50.3
Disappearance ...	55.9	57.6	

¹ Estimate.

tonnage used for canning was 1,388,000 tons off 8 percent from 1973.

Checking the supply situation, stocks of frozen cut corn on January 1 were 217 million pounds, 14 percent more than the quantity held a year earlier. Cob corn stocks of 94 million pounds were 9 percent less than last year the same date. Nonetheless, total frozen corn movement has lagged a year ago despite the very light supply of canned product.

A trade journal source provided some perspective on the results of tight availability. Midwest fancy whole kernel golden case lists (24/303) are \$6.75, compared with \$4.23 just 12 months before. Cream style wholesale price lists have moved up in tandem with whole kernel.

On the frozen side, prices for cut and on-cob style packs have risen, but not by as much. In January, trade sources quoted food service 12/2½ pound pack steady at 31.5 cents a pound, f.o.b. West Coast.

Peas

Green pea production and packing activity advanced substantially in 1974. Freezing and canning raw tonnage in the U.S. was 573,000, compared with 501,000 in 1973. For processors, trade association statistics pointed to a canned pea pack of 33.1 million cases (24/303 basis), a 12-percent gain from the tight picture in 1973/74. Because canners' carryover inventories were low, total U.S. supply is judged just 4 percent larger than last year. Movement out of canners' warehouses last summer and early fall proceeded about as rapidly as the year before. But, in recent weeks movement had slackened so that shipments to January 1 were 7 percent less than last season—a time when supplies were the lowest in years.

January list prices for canned peas were sharply higher than a year earlier, roughly \$2 per case more for

Canned green peas: Supply and disappearance

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>
Carryover	4.9	3.6	1.5
Pack	33.1	29.6	33.1
Total supply	38.0	33.2	34.6
Disappearance ...	34.4	31.7	

¹ Estimate.

Midwest packed extra standard and fancy grades, consumer and institutional packs. Prices are generally steady. The currently larger stocks represent a roughly normal supply situation for this time of year.

The 1974 pack of frozen peas, at 405 million pounds, was only moderately more than a year earlier, but stocks on January 1 were 21 percent above a year earlier. To combat lagging movement, some freezers are offering promotional allowances and under-list trading that effectively rolls prices back to levels which prevailed at the beginning of the current marketing season. Marketings to January 1 came to 251 million pounds, moderately less than comparable periods of the 1960's. With some price weakness in snapbeans and frozen corn, slightly lower frozen pea prices may be expected before the new pack season.

Cucumbers for Pickles

Total crop production of cucumbers for pickles in 1974 was 596,000 tons, down negligibly from the year before. Michigan, Colorado, Ohio, and Washington output gains were offset by declines in California, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Wisconsin. Crop values in most areas advanced smartly. Per ton U.S. growers averaged \$131.00. It had been \$99.30/ton in 1973.

Resulting supplies of all pack styles, combined with carryover stocks, appear to guarantee about the same availability in first and second quarters 1975 as in 1974.

Trade association data, covering 55 percent of cucumber acreage harvested for pickles, show late 1974 inventories of pickles about 7 percent lower than a year ago.

Spinach

The biggest jump in processed spinach supplies took place about 9-10 months ago, when spring 1974 crop production proved to be 52,500 tons. It exceeded the winter process tonnage, itself comfortably ahead of the year earlier. On the frozen side, warehouses reported 67.7 million pounds of spinach in cold storage on January 1, 1975. This was slightly higher than 12 months ago and 18 million pounds higher than the same date 1973.

Fall crop production dropped sharply this past year, an attempt by the trade to iron away a bulging supply. Spinach crop output fell from 30.0 million tons to 13.6 million tons. Absolute reductions occurred almost evenly on both canning and freezing sides.

Growers were reported to have obtained \$71.70 per ton in fall 1974, a nominal increase from \$66.90 averaged in 1973. For the year 1974, U.S. operators received \$56.70 per ton, up moderately from \$49.90.

As of January 1, the National Cannery Association stocks data showed 3.1 million cases (24/303 basis), a rise of 61 percent from 1973's figure. But diminished fall canning activity, noted above, has likely made the

supply situation move closer to 1973/74. List prices at the wholesale level show prices up only 10-15 percent from last year.

Lima beans

Production data showed the 1974 crop of baby and Fordhook limas for processing at 86,000 tons. About 68,000 tons were for freezing; the remainder for canning. Although yields on Fordhook freezing acreage were up to 1.97 tons per acre (1.84 in 1973), less Fordhook acreage had been planted. But that variety's seed production increased in 1973 to 2.64 million pounds, bigger than 1972's 1.90 million pounds. The cause for reduced total processing acreage was more likely the slightly higher cold storage position for limas of all varieties in March and April 1974 compared with a year before.

The canned lima pack nationwide is in the 2.5-million-case range, down roughly 20 percent from 1973. Freezing of limas was approximately 141 million pounds of product, 9 million fewer than the year before.

Wholesale prices for canned and frozen lima beans have increased 25-30 percent since January 1974.

Beets

Tonnage of processing beets totaled 241,000 in 1974, the result of more harvest acres as well as an improvement in average yield per acre. Crop production was up 20 percent from 1973 and up 46 percent from 1972. Cannery brought .9 million cases (24/303 basis) into the 1974/75 marketing season, the same as July 1, 1973. The reported pack of beets in 1974 totaled 14.8 million cases, substantially more than the 11.3 million (24/303 basis) of 1973. This means ample quantity for the trade on through summer 1975.

Once buyers and sellers took a look at the canned beet situation in the fall, promotional activity and deals off-list were reported by trade sources to be more frequent. Even list wholesale prices took but modest jumps: from October to January, a case of fancy sliced beets (Midwest origin) went from \$5.25 to \$5.60.

Sauerkraut

Cabbage tonnage used for kraut this past fall was 279,000 tons, 27 percent more than a year earlier. Most of this was from contract tonnage, though open market purchases in 1974 amounted to 34,000 tons of this total figure. The average price received by growers for contracted acreage was up sharply this year to \$31.30 up from \$23.10. This reflected attractive crop alternatives and increased production costs for growers in New York, Wisconsin, and Ohio. Sauerkraut stocks of 8 million cases (basis 24/303's) on January 1 were the largest for that date since 1972.

POTATOES

The 1974 fall crop was a record large 288 million cwt, 13 percent more than the small harvest in 1973 and 7 percent above the previous record set in 1970. Grower prices are low. Early season processing contracts were reflected in the relatively high prices reported during the fourth quarter. The December U.S. average was \$3.45 per cwt, versus \$3.99 in 1973. Processors again used large amounts of the fall crop to replenish inventories that were severely depleted by the summer of 1974.

Production for calendar year 1974 was a record 340 million cwt, up 14 percent from 1973. All seasonal groups had heavier output in 1974, with fall production accounting for 85 percent of last year's crop.

Marketing the 1974 Crop

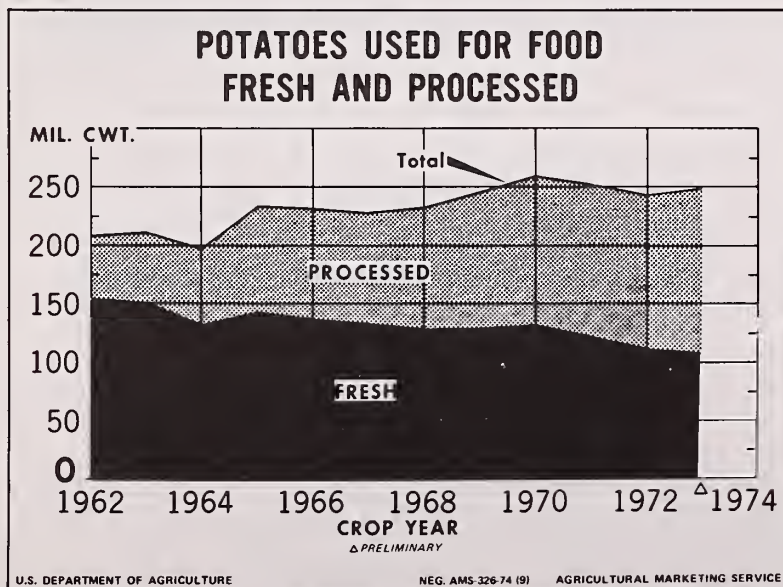
With a record large supply to market and with a weakened national economy, it is likely that fresh market use of the 1974 fall crop of potatoes will increase. This could mean that as many as 113 million cwt will be sold as tablestock, compared with only 107 million from the previous smaller crop. If this turns out to be the case, then per capita use of fresh potatoes in 1974 might move moderately above the 52.0 pounds used in 1973. The 1973 figure stands as the lowest of record. As recently as 1960, the comparable figure was 84 pounds. Fresh market use can be expected to account for only a modest increase, despite the large crop. Processing uses are expected to be larger again, and more will be fed to livestock, where feasible, especially in view of much higher 1975 feed prices. Furthermore, a larger shrinkage is practically always associated with a larger crop. Growers tend to tighten up the average grade and processors tend to become sticklers for quality.

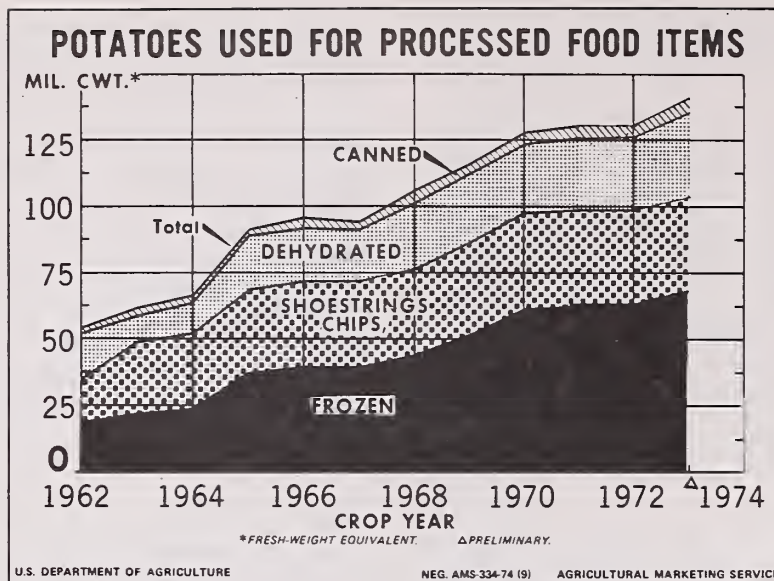
In seven major processing States, only 1 percent fewer tubers from the fall crop had been used for dehydrated, frozen, or starch products by February 1. In view of the large supply of raw product available, this suggests that processors are not as eager to continue adding to supplies on hand. Several plants, in fact, did shut down a little longer than usual over the winter holidays. Generally, processors were more active in the Pacific Northwest, including Idaho, than elsewhere in the country. Processors in Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, and North Dakota combined, reported using 3 percent less than a year ago up to February 1. Despite the slight loss in processing activity thus far this season, frozen product manufacture might be expected to account for 72 million cwt of raw product for the 1974 crop, and up to 35 million cwt could be dehydrated. This represents only a slight gain the manufacture of frozen products, but is a substantial increase for dehydrated product. Chip manufacture is down from a year ago, a reflection of business conditions nationwide. Raw product supplies are ample to generous.

Per capita consumption of potatoes in all forms is expected to increase in 1974/75, and move to the 122-pound-per-person range, fresh weight equivalent basis. The previous record was 119.2 pounds in 1972. When final data are tabulated, frozen product use is expected to be at least 33 pounds in 1974, the most important single processed potato use. Dehydrated products use could exceed 13 pounds per person. Chip use may be nearly 17 pounds, raw product equivalent. Chip use per capita has declined slightly in recent years.

Fresh Market Prices at More Usual Levels

In sharp contrast to last year, fresh market potato prices at major shipping points have moved closer to





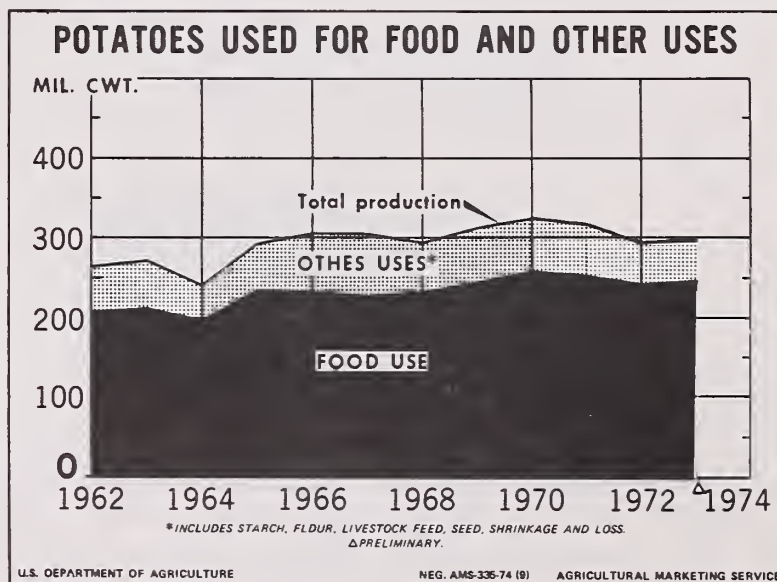
recent historical levels, with the sharpest declines occurring at eastern and midwestern shipping points. For example, early January f.o.b. prices from Twin Falls, Idaho were \$6.19, compared with \$9.00 a year earlier for U.S. no. 1 Size A Russets in 100-pound sacks. The U.S. no. 1 10-ounce minimum brought \$4.12, compared with a \$6.62 price last year. In Maine the contrast is sharper. At Presque Isle, U.S. no. 1 Katahdins were \$2.24 per cwt, versus \$7.76 in mid-January a year ago. Round reds from the Red River Valley were reported at \$3.20 per cwt, against \$6.88 a year earlier.

Although these prices are sharply lower under the pressure of record large stocks, unloads of fresh market potatoes at major markets since October 1 have been less than last season. However, total fresh market unloads

compiled from all seasonal groups of the 1974 crop are running slightly ahead of a year earlier. Shipments from Idaho and Maine, the two major late spring shipping fall States, have lagged, but in these areas, movement can be expected to pick up some in the weeks ahead. Another check on disappearance—the Statistical Reporting Service noted that disappearance of the 1974 fall crop to February 1 was 7 percent more than a year earlier.

Stocks Are Record Large

Potato stocks on February 1 were more than a fifth above the short supply on hand a year earlier. In the eight Eastern States, stocks are relatively the heaviest with 28.0 million cwt on hand, 41 percent more than last year. Eight Central States report nearly a fourth



more of variable quality. Heavy sunburn and frost damage have been major factors contributing to the above-average shrink and loss occurring in some storages. Where damage has been severe, some bins have been sold as livestock feed or have been dumped. In eight Western States, stocks were up 17 percent this year.

Retail Processed and Fresh Prices Were Up in 1974

Before 1974, retail prices for processed potatoes were relatively stable in comparison with fresh market packs. In late 1973 and through much of 1974, the scarcity of potatoes and sharply higher processing costs caused processed prices at retail to rise sharply as well. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, dehydrated prices averaged 19 percent more this past year, frozen advanced 30 percent, while fresh prices averaged 22 percent more.

Retail potato price trends

Year	U.S. averages		
	Fresh 10 pounds	Frozen french fries 9 oz.	Dehydrated mashed 7 oz.
	Cents	Cents	Cents
1967	74.7	15.0	36.3
1970	89.7	16.6	39.1
1971	86.1	16.3	40.1
1972	92.6	16.6	40.7
1973	136.9	17.2	42.7
1974	166.4	22.3	50.8

BLS data.

Larger Stocks of Processed Potato Products

Stocks of frozen french fries on January 1 were 24 percent larger than the relatively light supply on hand a year earlier. Stocks were easily rebuilt from the record-large 1974 fall crop, and substantial processing activity continues. But in recent weeks, trade reports suggest lagging movement. Stocks of other frozen potato products are even larger relative to a year earlier, leaving January 1 stocks of all frozen potato products 27 percent more than January 1, 1974.

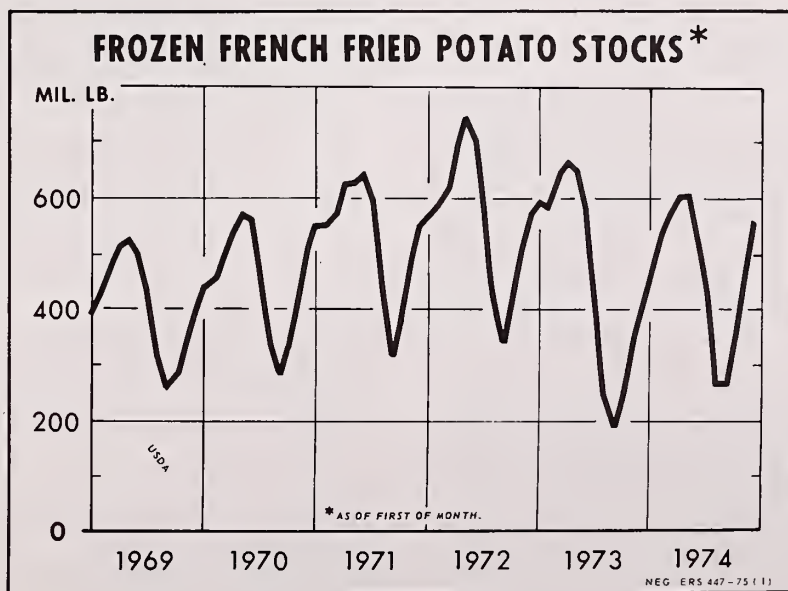
Although stocks data are not available for dehydrated potato flakes and granules, recent wholesale price declines suggest a buildup of stocks of these products as well. Demand is off, especially for the institutional packs.

With large quantities of the 1974 fall potato crop still on hand, it is likely that freezers and dehydrators will continue packing and supplies will be plentiful the balance of 1975. Also, processors are not likely to be as eager to contract for 1975 fall crop potatoes. At the same time, potato growers in the major fall processing States are in the process of deciding what other crops, if any, will be profitable alternatives for some of their land that was in potatoes in 1974.

Winter and Spring Prospects

The winter potato crop in Florida and California has been forecast at 2.9 million cwt, the same as a year earlier. Yield is expected to be less than a year ago, offsetting larger acreage for harvest.

A substantial cut of 14 percent in spring acreage is expected this season. Without a doubt this is a natural response to heavy supplies of the 1974 fall crop remaining to be sold. All the important producing



States—California, Florida, Alabama, and North Carolina—are expected to be harvesting from a reduced acreage this coming season. Of the States, the cuts in Florida and Alabama are more severe. Only a 10-percent reduction is expected in California. Nevertheless, acreage cuts of this size could lend some price strength to late-season-stored potatoes. On April 9, the first spring production estimate will be made.

Fall Prospects Analyzed

Statistical analysis¹ of fourth quarter production histories, January 1 stocks, and time trend can forecast an expected fall potato price. In 1973, fourth quarter output, 254 million cwt, was accompanied by an average of monthly grower prices reported by the Statistical Reporting Service at \$3.44 per cwt. With a 1974 fall crop production of 288 million cwt heavily influenced by relatively high early-season contract prices, the comparable SRS price was \$3.75.

Looking ahead to fourth quarter 1975, should U.S. production equal 1974, the U.S. average grower price could be substantially lower than the fall of 1974. Contract prices may preclude early discovery of fundamental price weakness, although like the 1974/75 disposition, it would eventually be discovered by late fall/early winter.

On the other hand, beginning stocks of 162 million cwt (January 1, 1975) and time trend, coupled with a lower fall 1975 crop production of 265 million cwt could create a higher, but not record, U.S. average price for potatoes. Key factor: In the past two or three seasons, stocks on hand at the beginning of the year have been a more important determinant of fall crop price than fall crop production itself. Stocks and crop production were of roughly equal significance in prior estimates.

Outlook for Fall Crop Planting

An early winter dropoff in cash grain markets plus increased acreage required by sugar beet refineries have influenced the planting intentions for fall 1975 potatoes. On the sugar side, USDA's prospective planting report shows a likely gain of 70,000 acres in Idaho and Oregon beets, in order to meet processor and end-user requirements. Historic average yields are assumed when inferring planted acres expansion for beets. Bigger area of beets for sugar, weak winter cash markets for potatoes, and an unsettled outlook for grain crop alternatives are likely to prompt a reduction of potato acreage, compared with acreage actually harvested in fall 1974. But the first report on fall potato planting intentions for 1975 will not be published until March 17.

¹ USDA Economic Research Service, "Potato Facts", Winter 1975.

Should a processing organization expect a slight reduction in crop availability in fall 1975, or if a firm plans for larger pack budgets in 1975/76, more of the fall 1975 potato crop will be placed under contract early in the year. Result: A narrower open market availability of potatoes in 1975/76, compared with 1974/75. But it is not certain now whether most processors will be needing more raw product from the 1975 fall crop than the quantity used out of the 1974 crop.

Potato Situation in the Northwest

In the belief that changing storage totals influence base prices offered on potato contracts during the spring, two contrasting situations might be described:

Case 1: Suppose that growers and processors arrive at a contract value of \$3.25 per cwt (for example), down from \$4.00 average in many 1974 contracts. Possible grower action: Lowered acreage intentions and, with normal yield prospects, a substantial reduction in fall crop production to perhaps 265 million cwt. Processor action: With lower prices in hand and 1975/76 manufacturing budgets unchanged or expanded, a higher percentage (e.g., 75%) of raw product needs are forward contracted than 1974. Resulting farm price impact: Open market potatoes (for fresh, processing, seed, and other uses) start the marketing season higher than the base price on contracts and continue to climb through to May 1976.

Case 2: Growers and processors set a contract value of \$5.00 per cwt, up substantially from 1974. Possible grower action: same or only slightly lower acreage intentions and, assuming normal yield prospects, about the same fall crop production, 285 million cwt, as experienced in 1974. Processor action: With high contract values in place, forward contracting of raw product needs would fall to perhaps 40% of expected 1975/76 pack budgets. Price impact: Open market potatoes, plagued by near-record crop production, see few buyers except at successively lower price levels. Deterioration in prices received by growers sets in during late October and continue through to May 1976.

Cases 1 and 2 are admittedly extremes. However, they suggest that, given typical grower and processor actions, total cash receipts to growers (or, the amount of raw product expense incurred by manufacturers) could be roughly the same in either case. Individual operator experience will not be "average", but this review suggests fundamental inventory and crop production numbers—not contract values or contract percentages—are the key determinants of cash receipts of Northwest potato growers.

SWEETPOTATOES

Final crop production data for 1974 placed U.S. sweetpotato output at 13.5 million cwt, a plus change of 7 percent from 1973. Quickened fresh movement last fall and early winter accompanied this bigger crop. Movement to processors was also very active the last quarter of 1974. Average yields nationwide were about the same as in 1973. Louisiana's production gains in 1974 represented all of the nationwide increase, while North Carolina remained even with 1973. Other States' crop production changes cancelled out one another.

SRS has reported the U.S. average price received by sweetpotato growers in fall 1974 at \$7.85 per cwt, higher than fall 1973 by 14 percent. Winter 1975 prices, however, are not as likely to show that large a year-to-year increase, if any. Reason: Prices reported by USDA reflect relative crop production totals in key States. Drops in California-origin sales—normally "premium" sales—are likely to be outweighed by sales for Louisiana-origin crop, partly used for processing. Also, Louisiana came up with 30 percent more sweetpotatoes for 1974/75 than a year earlier. An early 1975 decline in farmers' prices can therefore not be ruled out.

Unloads of sweetpotatoes at major markets throughout the country (July 1, 1974 through late January) totaled 5,562 carlot equivalents. Cumulation a year before was just 4,949 cars. And because supply is up, f.o.b. shipping point prices generally have been stationary for several months. For 4 months, a 40-pound carton of yellow Jerseys moved from the Atwater-Livingston (California) District at \$8.30, but recently moved up to \$9.05. Porto Rico types, same container size, are \$6.30, a shade lower than the 1973/74 season. At the opening of 1975, Louisiana 50-pound crates of cured Porto Ricos were priced at \$6.75 f.o.b. shipping point, down \$1.00 from 1974. During the fall, a crate was worth \$6.38. The uncured shipping season in Louisiana wound up in December with \$5.38 per crate representative prices, also a dollar lower than 1973. Tarheel crop, cured, in 50-pound containers, has been worth a bit under \$6.00 this season, when \$7.00 prevailed 12 months before.

Canner interest in sweetpotatoes increased in 1974. The resulting 24/303 equivalent pack was 12.7 million cases as of January 1, a 15-percent jump from 1973. It has moved slowly. National Cannery Association data showed August-to-January shipments in 1974 lagging 1973 by 15 percent. Slower movement along with the bigger pack left canners with 7.1 million cases (24/303 basis) on hand as of January 1. Last year, processors had 3.7 million cases equivalent in house. Since relatively minor changes in U.S. per capita use occur from year to year, a big inventory could remain at the start of 1975's canning season. Less crop from a bit less acreage would move, then, into processing in 1975.

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service so far in fiscal 1975 has purchased 257,100 cases (6/10) of sweetpotatoes in syrup and 32,160 cases (6/10) of dehydrated sweetpotatoes. In the same period a year earlier, 125,400 cases in syrup and 34,840 of dehydrated had been acquired.

MUSHROOMS

Early winter 1975 saw a happy turnaround in the prospects for both fresh and processing mushrooms. On the supply side, growers indicated last summer that total 1974/75 fillings were going to advance 7 percent from 1973/74. This increase appeared in line with market needs. On the demand side, the selling environment was not plagued with consumer shyness, a concern brought on by industry recalls of canned mushroom items. During fall 1973, buyer hesitation carried through several months into 1974. However, grower prices weakened late in January 1975, reflecting reduced levels of consumer demand.

Imports of canned mushrooms are dropping. This season, July-December imports totaled 22.1 million pounds, when in the same period a year ago they were 25.1 million pounds. For calendar year 1974, canned mushroom imports for consumption to the U.S. amounted to 42.6 million pounds, valued at \$30.6 million. In 1973, 49.8 million pounds arrived with a declared valuation of \$32.2 million.

Wholesale fresh market quotations in Philadelphia weakened during the month of January. Four-quart baskets, medium to large size were \$2.00-2.75 (1974 early February price: \$2.00-2.50). Raw stock for processing, clean cut, was mostly \$0.35-0.40 per pound, about the same as early 1974. Retail prices of both fresh mushrooms and processed products are reported by trade sources to be up from 1974, reflecting moderately higher wholesale costs.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Lower Prices

Interrupted only by an increase from \$21.40 to \$23.10 per 100-lb bag in October 1974, dry edible bean prices fell a bit further in late fall and early winter. Beans were worth an average of \$20.20 per cwt in January 1975. Record supplies have prompted lower prices. A current factor in slack demand is a wait-and-see attitude by users.

Annual Summary

The Annual Crop Summary, released by SRS on January 16, placed 1974's bean production at 20.8 million cwt, up from 16.4 million cwt harvested the year before. Gains occurred in virtually every commercially

estimated class, with navies up 42 percent. In all, white beans are comparatively more plentiful than colored classes—though both groupings are very generous. Whites (navy, great northern, small white) increased 38 percent over 1973, to 9.7 million cwt. Coloreds (pink, pinto, red kidney, small red, cranberry, black turtle soup) increased: 15 percent to 8.3 million cwt. Lima and other classes total production: up 33 percent in 1974, to 2.8 million cwt.

Marketings

Domestic utilization of all classes of dry edible beans is being encouraged through USDA Agricultural Marketing Service's "Food Alert" bulletins. Most classes of dry beans, after recent dealer and retail price declines, have clearly reestablished themselves as a most cost-effective protein source. This is especially important for consumers in a period when employment and spendable earnings levels are off from a year ago.

A moderate increase in U.S. domestic use, chiefly for beans in plastic bags, could be accompanied by a substantially higher export volume. The Michigan Bean Shippers Association reported in early January that navy bean inspections September 1 through December 31, 1974 were 2.01 million cwt, slightly ahead of 2.00 million cwt inspected 1 year before. As anticipated, domestic sales (Michigan origin) of all classes of new crop beans were running 500-600,000 bags lower than in 1973.

In December and winter 1975, movement to both domestic and export channels appears to be picking up. Working off high cost distributor and retailer supplies of both bagged and canned dry bean products has been a slow process. But with grower-dealer prices now near their probable lows, especially for white classes, marketings can be expected to progress in a more usual fashion.

Exports of all classes of dry beans, September through December 1974, are reported by Bureau of Census at 2.2 million cwt; in the same period of 1973 offshore movement was 1.7 million cwt. This indicates that January-August 1975 exports should handily exceed quantities shipped the same period in 1974, because extremely high prices then had severely curtailed foreign buying interest. However, should export of dry beans not turn out to be dramatically ahead of the same period of 1974, it would result in excessive carryover into the next season.

World Production Reviewed

Recent reports furnished to USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service place 1974 world production of dry beans in reporting countries at 6.2 million metric tons (136.6 million cwt), an increase of approximately 2 million cwt. over the previous year. The increase centers around white bean production in the U.S. and Canada, but production of colored beans in Mexico was down sharply.

First reported production jumps were Southern Hemisphere beans. The Argentine estimate, 115,300 metric tons (2.5 million cwt) harvested spring 1974, is substantially higher than the 82,500 metric tons of (1.8 million cwt) of spring 1973. Increases there were chiefly in alubias, comparable to the great northern class grown in the U.S.

Next, Canadian crop reports showed output of all dried beans at 2.05 million cwt, 18.8 percent more than in 1973. Navy beans were up to 1.86 million cwt from 1.59 million. In 1973/74, exports particularly to the United Kingdom, accounted for about 70 percent of the Ontario pea bean crop.

The Mexican crop declined in 1974 due to poor weather. Output fell back from 1,100,000 metric tons to 987,000 metric tons (24.2 million cwt and 21.8 million cwt, respectively). Due to government policies designed to stabilize and subsidize consumer staples, Mexican interests have actively acquired U.S.-origin colored beans to meet internal shortfalls in dry beans. For this reason, U.S. grower-dealer prices for pintos (as an example) have held well above other more abundant classes.

Finally, Ethiopian bean production gained in 1974, with a range of 100-120,000 metric tons (2.2-2.6 million cwt) estimated. In 1973, Ethiopia produced about 78,000 metric tons (1.7 million cwt), some of which were shipped to U.S. users who did not have enough for canning.

In view of U.S. and world supplies, U.S. imports of all classes of beans will likely be negligible for the remainder of the crop year. Imports in 1973/74 rose dramatically to 700,000 cwt (100,000 cwt in usual crop years).

U.S. Price Review by Classes

Colored beans, with smaller 1974 production increases than either white or other classes, have been commanding relatively high prices. Colorado shipping points reported late January f.o.b.'s for 100-lb bags of pintos at \$30.25. Prices had remained about even for 2 months, but recently some weakness is evident. Prior to that, export commitments in October had supported a \$37.00 per cwt market for pintos. The limited availability of pintos, just 7-percent more than last year, means that pintos should remain at a premium, relative to other classes. Red kidneys, 28 percent more abundant than a year ago, have been moving f.o.b. San Francisco for \$28.00 per cwt. A year ago, that price was \$41.50.

Among white classes, great northern quotes have averaged around \$20.00 per cwt, a reflection of a one-fifth greater crop in 1974. Great northern prices, Idaho shipping points, are down 50 percent from early 1974. But the sharpest price decline for dry edible beans has been for navy pea beans. Trade sources have compared the 100-lb bag at \$13.00 (Michigan points) in late January 1975 to \$45.00 a year ago. Great northern plus navy beans comprise the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) component of the Consumer Price Index. Their December report on retail prices: \$0.69 per lb. average

U.S. price. Reflecting lower commodity costs, dry edible bean retail prices (BLS) should move even lower in January and February to about \$0.40 per lb. average.

Among other classes, West Coast points reported early winter large lima prices of \$22.00 per cwt. California's large lima crop in 1974 totaled 670,000 cwt; in 1973, 533,000. The baby lima price was down to \$15.00 per bag, following a bigger crop in California. Baby lima production there grew from 378,000 cwt in 1973 to 574,000 cwt last year. Blackeye peas (a dry edible bean class) have been the least expensive California legume. West Coast f.o.b. price per cwt in January 1975 was \$13.25, well under \$31.00 the year before. All of the West Coast prices reflect generous inventories. The California Bean Shippers Association warehouse report for January 1, 1975 counted 3.2 million cwt of all classes in storage, 72 percent more than at the beginning of 1974.

Outlook for 1975

Record gains in supplies, coupled with a normal pattern of bagged and canned product utilization, mean that end-of-season stocks summer 1975 will be dramatically above September 1, 1974. This prospect and expected grower-dealer price weakness, with some of the colored classes the exception, will prompt lower acreage intentions in key States. Early planting intentions for Michigan, released January 22, called for 70,000 more acres of corn and soybeans combined. Some Michigan dry bean acreage is therefore probably being shifted to those crops. Switching is likely in California, Idaho, and Minnesota as well. Because average yields per acre were record-large across the U.S. in 1974, a return to more usual yields and smaller acreages (but with a large carryover) could result in a more favorable balance between supply and demand during 1975/76 marketing.

Government Purchases

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service has purchased 9.5 million pounds of dry edible beans under Section 6 and Section 32 authority during the crop year 1974/75. Cumulative purchases 1 year ago through January were 29.6 million lbs.

DRY EDIBLE PEAS

The Annual Crop Summary for 1974 provided additional detail concerning last year's pea crop of 3.2 million cwt. Alaska and other smooth green kinds totaled: 2.5 million cwt while Canada plus other yellow and white kinds totaled 0.7 million cwt. All kinds are abundant. Wrinkled seed peas, a separate crop survey of SRS, indicated Pacific Northwest production of 1.0 million cwt, a gain from 0.9 million cwt in 1973.

In late-January, green split pea prices f.o.b. Northwest shipping points were reported at \$7.25 per cwt. Other representative prices were: Yellows \$6.90, Blacks \$6.00, and lentils \$13.00. As reported by SRS, farm prices for dry peas averaged \$8.70 per cwt in January, compared with \$15.70 at season's open in late August 1974. A year ago, January grower prices averaged \$28.00 due to sharply curtailed supply.

Export of peas and lentils this season has been very rapid totaling 140.5 million pounds during September-December. In the same period of 1973, just 103.9 million pounds had been shipped out. Export of all classes through the remainder of 1975 will likely exceed 1974 by a wide margin.

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service has so far not engaged in program (school lunch, etc.) activity this marketing year.

Table 1—Potatoes: January 1 total stocks by areas, United States

Year	Eastern States	Central States	Western States	Total ¹
	<i>Mil. cwt.</i>	<i>Mil. cwt.</i>	<i>Mil. cwt.</i>	<i>Mil. cwt.</i>
1969	40.4	28.7	61.3	130.4
1970	37.0	28.0	73.2	138.1
1971	38.0	29.9	82.0	150.0
1972	38.0	34.1	79.3	151.4
1973	28.0	27.6	78.8	134.3
1974	25.3	28.0	80.3	133.6
1975	36.2	35.1	90.5	161.7

¹ May not add to total due to rounding.

Table 2—U.S. exports of dried edible beans by country of destination

Country	Marketing year beginning		
	Sept. 1971	Sept. 1972	Sept. 1973
	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>
United Kingdom	675.8	947.4 ¹	801.4 ¹
Japan	178.5	234.2	133.0
Venezuela	211.4	112.7	47.0
Mexico	97.0	193.9	517.0
France	282.7	361.5	246.5
Netherlands	225.0	264.4	167.8
Dominican Republic ...	158.9	113.3	178.3
Australia	77.8	64.5	109.3
Algeria	208.3	71.1	275.0
Other countries	694.9	1,915.4	862.9
Total U.S. exports ...	2,810.3	4,278.4	3,338.2

¹ Includes Northern Ireland.

Table 3—Beans dry edible: Production by commercial classes, 1969-74

Class	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 ¹
	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>
White:						
Pea, navy	7,169	5,180	5,022	6,450	4,882	6,943
Great northern	1,707	1,430	1,517	1,515	1,776	2,128
Small white ²	581	342	378	397	421	665
Yelloweye	20	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Total, White	9,477	6,952	6,917	8,362	7,079	9,736
Colored:						
Pink	500	678	724	624	804	1,030
Pinto	4,511	5,384	4,843	5,613	4,622	4,928
Red kidney	1,548	1,302	1,123	816	1,145	1,469
Small red	453	585	371	371	318	446
Cranberry	165	155	112	257	205	184
Black turtle soup	223	227	279	144	135	246
Total, colored	7,400	8,331	7,452	7,825	7,229	8,303
Lima:						
Large	770	558	398	471	533	670
Baby	430	478	400	317	378	574
Total, lima	1,200	1,036	798	788	911	1,244
Other:						
Blackeye	513	712	413	801	766	1,092
Garbanzo	101	68	85	60	98	83
Other ⁴	222	300	252	282	306	347
Total, other	836	1,080	750	1,143	1,170	1,522
United States	18,913	17,399	15,917	18,118	16,389	20,805

¹ Preliminary. ² Includes flat small white. ³ Included in "Other". ⁴ Does not include beans grown for garden seed.

Data from Crop Production, SRS, USDA.

Table 4—Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Commercial acreage, production, and value for principal crops, 1972, 1973, and 1974¹

	Harvested acreage				Production				Value			
	1972		1973		1974		1974		Per cwt.		Total	
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	Dollars	Dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Artichokes	11.1 ²	12.0 ²	10.8 ²	710 ²	600 ²	702 ²	11.60 ²	14.50 ²	17.30 ²	8,222 ²	8,699 ²	12,152 ²
Asparagus	119.1 ²	115.4 ²	112.5 ²	922	860	824	26.70	31.10	33.40	24,663	26,765	27,489
Beans, snap	86.4	85.9	82.7	3,123	3,034	2,884	14.80	17.90	18.40	46,366	54,189	52,983
Broccoli	47.3 ²	53.9 ²	48.7 ²	1,375	1,497	1,464	14.10	15.70	17.40	19,436	23,517	25,493
Brussels sprouts ..	6.1 ²	6.1 ²	6.2 ²	702 ²	641 ²	662 ²	14.40 ²	13.90 ²	17.40 ²	10,112 ²	8,894 ²	11,524 ²
Cabbage ³	104.9 ²	109.8 ²	106.2 ²	22,518 ²	24,110 ²	24,640 ²	3.51 ²	5.09 ²	3.79 ²	78,358 ²	121,416 ²	92,519 ²
Cantaloups ⁴	96.6	93.1	69.9	12,944	11,312	9,459	7.26	8.07	10.00	93,957	91,322	94,686
Carrots	75.8 ²	83.3 ²	79.0 ²	12,571	12,807	13,725	7.21	7.19	7.67	90,651	92,131	105,337
Cauliflower	28.1 ²	31.8 ²	34.6 ²	1,611	1,442	1,513	14.60	16.40	17.90	23,529	23,625	27,034
Celery	33.2 ²	33.5 ²	32.4 ²	16,021 ²	16,784 ²	16,112 ²	6.42 ²	6.04 ²	5.70 ²	102,794 ²	101,352 ²	91,806 ²
Corn, sweet	180.6	174.5	168.9	13,167	13,633	13,012	6.28	6.65	7.79	82,625	92,606	101,387
Cucumbers	49.2	44.1	45.4	4,701	4,220	4,503	8.14	9.34	10.40	38,265	39,431	46,830
Eggplant	3.1	2.8	3.3	522	527	599	8.68	9.80	16.60	4,530	5,164	6,969
Escarole	9.8	8.4	8.3	1,180	1,199	1,114	7.99	11.60	10.90	9,431	13,943	12,191
Garlic	5.1 ²	6.9 ²	9.0 ²	663 ²	897 ²	1,170 ²	9.84 ²	11.70 ²	12.20 ²	6,525 ²	10,522 ²	14,284 ²
Honeydews	13.2	14.0	11.4	2,307	2,453	1,829	6.24	7.47	8.53	14,390	18,324	15,610
Lettuce	219.7	224.8	226.2	48,640	50,581	49,721	5.73	7.41	7.09	278,736	374,923	352,731
Onions	94.5 ²	104.9 ²	109.8 ²	28,355 ²	29,659 ²	33,416 ²	6.48 ²	7.57 ²	5.15 ²	167,715	207,046	158,494
Peppers, green	46.5 ²	47.9 ²	47.8 ²	4,590 ²	4,738 ²	4,765 ²	12.70 ²	13.90 ²	14.70 ²	58,219 ²	65,739 ²	70,110 ²
Spinach	9.8	10.7	9.7	585	628	615	14.80	14.40	15.10	8,647	9,072	9,263
Tomatoes	145.1	139.0	126.8	19,847	19,549	19,879	14.80	16.00	17.30	294,572	312,148	344,603
Watermelons	267.8	241.3	215.2	25,320	26,260	23,196	2.50	2.95	3.81	63,266	77,465	88,468
Total	1,653.0	1,644.1	1,564.9	222,374	227,431	225,804	6.86	7.82	7.80	1,525,009	1,778,293	1,761,963

¹ Includes Hawaii. ² Includes quantities used for processing. ³ Price computed from value and production less not marketed. ⁴ Includes Casabas, Perslans, and other muskmelons.

Vegetables, Fresh Market, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Table 5—Vegetables, fresh: Representative wholesale prices (wholesale lot) sales at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available) indicated periods, 1972, 1973, and 1974

Market, commodity and State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
		1973-74			1974-75		
		Nov. 13	Dec. 11	Jan. 15	Nov. 12	Dec. 10	Jan. 14
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
NEW YORK							
Beans, snap							
round green type (Florida)	Bu. hamper and crt.	7.25	7.75	10.00	12.75	8.50	11.00
Broccoli, bunched (California)	14's crt.	4.75	6.25	7.25	5.75	6.00	7.00
Cabbage, domestic round type (Florida)	1-3/4 bu. crt.	---	3.50	3.375	---	3.75	5.00
Cabbage, Danish type (New York)	50-lb. sack	2.75	2.625	2.75	2.25	2.625	3.25
Carrots, topped, washed (California)	48-1-lb. film bag ctn.	5.50	5.25	6.50	8.25	8.00	8.25
Celery, Pascal (Florida)	2-4 doz. 16 in. crt.	4.00	3.75	5.125	---	4.50	5.25
Celery, Pascal (California)	2-3 doz. 16 in. crt.	6.25	5.00	6.00	8.00	6.50	6.75
Corn, sweet, yellow (Florida)	4½-5 doz. crt.	4.25	4.25	6.00	5.00	5.25	5.00
Cucumbers, (Florida)	Bu. basket	6.00	7.75	---	6.50	11.00	---
Lettuce, Iceberg type (Arizona)	2 doz. ctn.	3.25	4.75	4.00	8.25	5.00	---
Onions, yellow, medium (New York)	50-lb. sack	4.25	4.50	5.00	2.75	2.50	2.60
Peppers, green, California Wonder (Florida)	Bu. basket	---	12.00	5.75	5.25	5.25	8.50
Spinach, savoy type (Texas)	Bu. basket	3.50	4.50	4.75	---	5.50	6.00
CHICAGO							
Beans, snap							
round green type (Florida)	Bu. hamper	7.50	8.50	10.00	11.50	10.50	13.50
Broccoli (California)	14's crt. and ctn.	4.75	5.85	6.50	6.00	4.75	7.00
Cabbage, domestic round type (Texas)	1-3/4 bu. crt.	3.25	3.35	3.00	3.50	4.50	4.75
Carrots, topped, washed (California)	48-1-lb. film bag, mesh master	---	4.25	6.40	6.00	7.25	---
Cauliflower (California)	Film wrapped 12's ctn.	7.25	6.50	7.50	---	5.75	9.75
Celery, Pascal type (California)	2-3 doz. 16 in. crt.	6.00	4.25	6.25	7.50	5.50	7.25
Corn, sweet, yellow (Florida)	5 doz. crt.	4.00	4.25	---	4.75	4.50	5.25
Cucumbers (Florida)	Bu. basket	6.50	---	---	6.25	---	---
Lettuce, Iceberg type (Arizona)	2 doz. heads, ctn.	4.00	4.75	3.65	8.75	5.25	8.00
Onions, yellow, large (Idaho)	50 lb. sack	5.25	5.00	7.00	4.25	3.625	3.60
Onions, yellow, medium (Midwestern)	50 lb. sack	4.00	4.25	4.50	3.00	2.75	2.50
Peppers, green, California Wonder type, large (Florida)	Bu. basket	---	12.50	---	7.25	6.00	11.50
Tomatoes, greenhouse, medium (Midwestern)	8 lb. Bu. basket	3.50	3.00	---	---	3.00	---

Weekly summary of terminal market prices, AMS, USDA, Market News Report.

Table 6—Vegetables, fresh: Average f.o.b. shipping point prices, per hundredweight, United States, indicated periods, 1973, 1974, and 1975

Commodity	1973		1974				1975
	November	December	October	November	December	December 1-15	January 1-15
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Beans, snap	15.60	22.20	24.10	23.70	19.10	17.70	20.60
Broccoli	15.20	16.70	16.10	16.80	16.20	16.00	18.40
Cabbage	4.78	4.25	4.56	4.60	5.05	4.86	5.36
Cantaloups	---	---	10.40	10.10	---	---	---
Carrots	6.56	5.94	9.05	10.60	9.62	10.00	8.95
Cauliflower	15.30	18.60	15.30	16.60	17.20	16.40	22.90
Celery	5.12	5.38	6.57	5.71	5.09	4.92	5.19
Corn, sweet	6.78	7.40	7.75	8.40	8.98	7.89	7.20
Cucumbers	7.84	9.80	11.40	6.75	13.20	12.40	15.30
Lettuce	3.86	4.60	9.91	8.93	5.64	6.28	10.10
Onions	6.97	7.23	5.34	4.59	4.15	4.26	3.92
Peppers, green	24.90	18.90	14.40	14.70	18.10	15.50	23.50
Spinach	16.70	14.20	17.00	17.20	16.00	13.60	15.50
Tomatoes	15.70	16.30	16.10	20.90	17.60	18.10	18.70

¹ Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 7—Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States, by months¹

(1967=100)

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
1935-39	35	37	40	40	39	30	27	25	25	28	32	36	33
1947-49	89	94	96	95	85	66	64	60	59	63	74	76	77
1950-54 ¹	87	82	78	91	82	75	72	62	57	66	77	83	76
1955-59	83	90	91	89	84	77	72	63	64	70	78	79	78
Year													
1960	99	95	87	88	90	74	76	62	61	67	73	77	79
1961	74	74	76	95	83	90	81	65	65	65	76	74	76
1962	94	102	125	109	107	84	73	63	64	66	75	85	87
1963	102	95	82	83	78	88	85	65	62	70	91	94	83
1964	100	103	98	89	83	90	80	76	76	78	101	87	88
1965	80	86	101	106	121	102	85	78	78	84	90	88	92
1966	106	112	102	109	97	99	114	101	91	91	103	99	102
1967	103	99	98	108	103	121	110	86	82	88	100	103	100
1968	118	123	127	132	108	98	94	88	92	91	115	119	109
1969	107	111	109	107	121	100	100	96	94	110	144	132	111
1970	134	130	125	112	124	113	103	95	107	96	105	100	112
1971	114	123	149	140	129	127	121	104	100	118	164	137	127
1972	152	132	119	137	127	126	121	128	130	115	144	140	131
1973	159	157	171	196	182	182	180	134	128	126	130	136	157
1974 ²	142	169	143	148	174	170	165	148	144	157	180	151	158

¹ The index for commercial fresh market vegetables was revised, beginning January 1958, to reflect changes in the method of reporting prices. All prices now are reported on a

f.o.b. basis. ² Preliminary.

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 8—Vegetables for commercial processing: Acreage, production, and season average price per ton, 1972, 1973, and 1974

Commodity	Harvested acreage			Production			Price per ton		
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Asparagus	87	N.A.	N.A.	98	84	89	439.00	471.00	526.00
Beans, lima ¹									
Canning	26	28	23	22	26	18	154.00	170.00	262.00
Freezing	48	50	49	69	72	68	225.00	226.00	325.00
Beans, snap									
Canning	194	218	227	462	548	579	98.10	100.00	148.00
Freezing	62	74	62	151	194	164	107.00	111.00	179.00
Beets	13	16	19	165	201	241	23.70	27.50	40.00
Cabbage for kraut	11	13	14	198	219	279	21.40	24.70	30.90
Corn, sweet ²									
Canning	315	330	335	1,512	1,498	1,388	25.00	27.40	48.00
Freezing	114	124	124	602	681	667	27.80	34.90	65.70
Cucumbers for pickles	129	126	132	572	599	596	94.00	99.30	131.00
Peas, green ¹									
Canning	248	267	270	328	295	341	113.00	117.00	188.00
Freezing	130	153	155	184	206	231	111.00	122.00	206.00
Spinach									
Canning	13	14	9	79	79	74	45.64	50.27	56.62
Freezing	13	13	16	85	92	99	44.13	49.60	56.72
Tomatoes	265	295	338	5,804	5,935	7,020	35.20	42.00	64.50
Broccoli	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	113	100	115	176.00	189.00	238.00
Carrots	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	352	462	468	28.70	28.80	39.90
Cauliflower	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	69	75	72	116.00	137.00	163.00
Total ³	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	10,865	11,366	12,509	50.38	55.57	82.14

¹ Production and price on a "shelled" basis. ² Corn in the Vegetable—Processing, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

N.A. Not available.

Table 9—Vegetables, frozen: Cold storage holdings and indicated disappearance, September 1 to December 31

Commodity	December 31			September 1-December 31 net change		
	1972	1973	1974 ¹	1972	1973	1974 ¹
	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>
Asparagus	22	18	11	-10	-10	-8
Beans, lima:						
Forkhook	34	28	30	10	10	15
Baby	54	62	70	29	38	46
Total	88	90	100	39	48	61
Beans, snap:						
Regular	98	118	126	-22	-24	-15
French style	51	55	55	-7	-6	-9
Total	149	173	181	-29	-30	-24
Broccoli:						
Spears	49	42	57	(³)	11	5
Chopped and cuts	38	32	36	2	3	-4
Total	87	74	93	2	14	1
Brussels sprouts	46	51	48	30	34	28
Carrots	97	120	159	62	90	84
Cauliflower	49	65	70	29	47	33
Corn, sweet:						
cut	166	190	217	71	86	124
on-cob	86	103	94	39	58	55
Total	252	293	311	110	144	179
Mixed vegetables	30	27	35	5	14	7
Okra	17	22	34	-5	1	-9
Onions						
Rings	N.A.	9	11	N.A.	1	1
Other	N.A.	13	18	N.A.	5	-2
Total	N.A.	22	29	N.A.	6	-1
Peas, Blackeyed	12	14	14	2	8	-3
Peas, green	168	181	219	-118	-108	-113
Peas and carrots	12	9	13	2	2	3
Spinach	49	63	68	-23	-20	-32
Southern greens	46	43	43	7	11	-2
Other vegetables	199	183	216	10	47	68
Total vegetables ²	1,323	1,448	1,644	113	298	272
Potatoes:						
French fried	594	457	565	246	263	295
Other potato products	83	92	131	16	40	37
Total frozen potatoes	677	549	696	262	303	332
Grand Total ²	2,000	1,997	2,340	375	601	604

¹ Preliminary. ² May not add to total due to rounding. N.A.-Not available. ³ Less than .50.

Cold Storage, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 10— Fresh Vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and farm value per unit, sold in New York City, indicated months, 1973 and 1974

Commodity, month, and retail unit	Retail price	Marketing Margin		Farm Value ^{1, 2}	
		Absolute	Percentage of retail value	Absolute	Percentage of retail value
	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Carrots (Pound)					
November 1974	25.3	14.6	58	10.7	42
October 1974	26.5	15.8	60	10.7	40
November 1973	21.6	14.1	65	7.5	35
Celery (Pound)					
November 1974	28.3	20.1	71	8.2	29
October 1974	26.4	20.8	79	5.6	21
November 1973	22.2	16.8	76	5.4	24
Lettuce (Head)					
November 1974	57.2	36.5	64	20.7	36
October 1974	47.7	31.8	67	15.9	33
November 1973	40.8	32.8	80	8.0	20
Onions, dry yellow (Pound)					
November 1974	19.0	14.3	75	4.7	25
October 1974	21.5	15.0	70	6.5	30
November 1973	19.7	12.1	61	7.6	39
Potatoes, round white (Pound)					
November 1974	12.7	8.9	70	3.8	30
October 1974	12.9	9.7	75	3.2	25
November 1973	14.7	9.4	64	5.3	36
Potatoes, Russet (Pound)					
November 1974	19.7	12.6	64	7.1	36
October 1974	20.2	12.8	63	7.4	37
November 1973	19.4	11.9	61	7.5	39
Sweetpotatoes (Pound)					
November 1974	24.7	13.0	53	11.7	47
October 1974	24.9	13.8	55	11.1	45
November 1973	25.1	12.0	48	13.1	52

¹ For quantity of product equivalent to retail unit sold to consumers: Because of waste and spoilage during marketing, equivalent quantity exceeds retail unit. ² Production

areas: Carrots-California, Celery-California, Lettuce-California, Onions-Texas, Potatoes, round white-New York, Potatoes, Russet-Idaho; Sweetpotatoes-Louisiana.

Table 11—Potatoes, Irish: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, 1972, 1973, and 1974

Seasonal group	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	1972	1973	1974 ¹	1972	1973	1974 ¹	1972	1973	1974 ¹
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>
Winter	15.4	14.0	13.7	151	204	214	2,327	2,853	2,933
Spring	95.8	98.9	99.8	219	214	243	21,011	21,213	24,297
Summer	130.9	125.1	132.1	182	172	191	23,776	21,478	25,176
Fall									
8 Eastern	223.9	233.2	238.5	230	212	254	51,431	49,327	60,542
8 Central	300.2	317.6	328.9	183	177	199	55,029	56,115	65,370
8 Western	487.6	515.8	567.7	292	288	285	142,381	148,424	161,798
Total, fall	1,011.7	1,066.6	1,135.1	246	238	253	248,841	253,866	287,710
United States	1,253.8	1,304.6	1,380.7	236	230	246	295,955	299,410	340,116

¹ Preliminary.

Crop Production, annual summary, SRS.

Table 12—Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, 1972, 1973, and 1974

Group and State	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	1972	1973	1974 ¹	1972	1973	1974 ¹	1972	1973	1974 ¹
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>
Central Atlantic ²	10.5	11.1	11.3	124	138	134	1,298	1,535	1,509
Lower Atlantic ³	34.0	34.5	37.5	137	127	124	4,660	4,385	4,633
Central ⁴	64.1	61.2	64.2	90	93	99	5,741	5,686	6,378
California	5.8	6.4	6.0	130	145	140	754	928	840
United States	114.4	113.2	119.0	109	111	112	12,453	12,534	13,360

¹ Preliminary. ² New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. ³ North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. ⁴ Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Crop Production, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Table 13—Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points per hundredweight, U.S. No. 1 grade or better, indicated periods, 1973, 1974, and 1975

Shipping point and variety	1973-74			1974-75		
	November 17	December 15	January 12	November 16	December 14	January 11
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Maine						
Round whites	5.60	5.68	7.02	2.56	2.42	2.36
Long Island, New York						
Round whites	6.76	6.78	7.92	3.64	3.58	3.26
New York, Upstate						
Round whites	6.64	6.88	8.08	3.68	3.50	3.40
Michigan						
Round whites	6.20	6.36	7.04	3.90	3.52	3.32
Wisconsin						
Round whites	5.58	5.55	---	3.12	3.16	2.94
Washington						
Russetts	---	---	7.28	---	5.65	5.38
Colorado						
Reds	5.12	5.12	5.90	5.12	4.75	4.50
Idaho						
Russets 2" or 4 oz. min. . .	7.50	7.12	---	6.60	6.06	---

F.O.B. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices for the week ended on indicated date.

Compiled from Market News Service reports.

Table 14—Canned Vegetables: Commercial pack and canners seasonal supply, shipments to January 1, stocks January 1, and total seasonal shipments, selected commodities

Commodity and season	Carryover	Pack	Seasonal supply	Shipments to January 1	Stocks January 1	Total seasonal shipments
	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>
Beans, lima						
1971-72 .....	.7	3.1	3.8	1.4	2.4	3.1
1972-73 .....	.7	2.1	2.8	1.3	1.5	2.7
1973-74 .....	.1	3.2	3.3	1.6	1.7	3.1
1974-75 .....	.2	2.5	2.7	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Beans, snap						
1971-72	8.0	50.0	58.0	28.2	29.8	52.1
1972-73	5.9	47.6	53.5	28.5	25.0	50.8
1973-74	2.7	55.0	57.7	31.2	26.5	52.5
1974-75	5.2	57.1 ²	62.3 ²	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Corn, sweet						
1971-72	9.4	53.8	63.2	26.2	37.0	54.0
1972-73	9.2	53.0	62.2	27.7	34.5	55.9
1973-74	6.3	55.2	61.5	28.7	32.8	57.6
1974-75	3.9	46.4	50.3	26.7	23.6	N.A.
Peas, green						
1971-72	4.3	33.2	37.5	19.2	18.3	32.6
1972-73	4.9	33.1	38.0	19.2	18.8	34.4
1973-74	3.6	29.6	33.2	21.3	11.9	31.7
1974-75	1.5	33.1	34.6	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

¹ Does not include late fall pack in Florida and Texas. ² January 1 thru November 1. N.A.—Not available.

National Canners Association.

Table 15—Sweetpotatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1973, 1974, and 1975

Item	State	Week ended					
		1973-74			1974-75		
		Nov. 17	Dec. 15	Jan. 12	Nov. 16	Dec. 14	Jan. 11
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
F.O.B. shipping points, Porto Rico, cured (U.S. No. 1 50 lb. crt.)	S.W. Louisiana	7.75	7.75	7.52	6.38	6.38	6.75
Porto Rico, cured (crt., ctn., and bu. bkt.) .	Eastern N. Carolina	7.00	7.00	7.00	---	5.88	5.88
		Tuesday nearest mid-month					
		1973-74			1974-75		
		Nov. 13	Dec. 11	Jan. 15	Nov. 12	Dec. 10	Jan. 14
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Terminal markets							
New York							
Porto Rico cured (50 lb. ctn.)	N. Carolina	8.00	7.25	7.75	---	7.25	7.25
Chicago							
Porto Rico cured (50 lb. crt.)	Louisiana	9.00	8.75	9.00	---	7.25	8.15

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices, compiled from Market News Service reports. The market prices are representative prices for Tuesday of each week and are

submitted by the Market News Service representative at each market.

Table 16—United States average prices received by farmers per hundredweight for important field crops, indicated periods, 1973, 1974, and 1975

Commodity	1973	1974					1975
	Dec. 15	Jan. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 15	Jan. 15	
	<i>Dols.</i>	<i>Dols.</i>	<i>Dols.</i>	<i>Dols.</i>	<i>Dols.</i>	<i>Dols.</i>	
Potatoes	3.99	4.88	3.90	3.92	3.45	3.32	
Sweetpotatoes . .	8.05	9.30	6.85	8.00	8.40	9.30	
Beans, dry edible	30.20	32.50	23.10	20.90	20.20	20.20	
Peas, dry field . .	27.50	28.00	11.30	11.50	9.90	8.70	

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 17—Beans, dry edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, 1972, 1973, and 1974¹

States and Classes	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production ²		
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>
Michigan	605	560	600	1,180	950	1,200	7,139	5,320	7,200
New York	36	39	42	850	950	1,230	306	371	517
Northwest ³	387	389	486	1,649	1,620	1,470	6,380	6,303	7,143
Southwest ⁴	217	211	204	845	760	889	1,833	1,604	1,814
California									
Large lima	26	31	33	1,810	1,720	2,030	471	533	670
Baby lima	18	20	28	1,760	1,890	2,050	317	378	574
Other	113	110	166	1,480	1,634	1,655	1,672	1,797	2,747
Total California	157	161	227	1,567	1,682	1,758	2,460	2,708	3,991
Other States	N.A.	7.7	10.7	N.A.	1,080	1,310	N.A.	83	140
United States	1,402	1,367.7	1,569.7	1,292	1,198	1,325	18,118	16,389	20,805

¹ Includes beans grown for seed. ² Cleaned basis. ³ Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington, Minnesota, and North Dakota. ⁴ Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. N.A. not

available.

Crop Production, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Table 18—Beans, dry edible: Production in selected States, by major types, United States, 1974 and total by types 1973

Type	Michigan	Idaho	Wyoming	Nebraska	Washington	Colorado	New York	California	Other ¹	Total	
										1974	1973
	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>
Peas, navy	6,480								463	6,943	4,882
Great northern . . .		527	80	1,500					21	2,128	1,776
Pinto	113	868	401	641	141	1,635			1,129	4,928	4,622
Red kidney	294	52					313	663	147	1,469	1,145
Small red		250			196					446	318
Large lima								670		670	533
Baby lima								574		574	378
Small white ²					123			542		665	421
Blackeye								1,092		1,092	766
Other	313	806		63	34	3	204	450	17	1,890	1,548
U.S. Total	7,200	2,503	481	2,204	494	1,638	517	3,991	1,777	20,805	16,389

¹ Includes Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, and Utah. ² Includes flat small white.

Crop Production, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Table 19—Peas, dry field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production 1972, 1973, and 1974¹

State	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>
Minnesota	6.0	4.0	1.0	1,300	1,300	1,300	78	52.	13
North Dakota	1.2	(²)	(²)	1,500	(²)	(²)	18	(²)	(²)
Idaho	50.0	48.0	89.0	1,500	1,300	1,500	750	624	1,335
Washington	74.0	81.0	117.0	1,610	1,180	1,530	1,191	956	1,790
Oregon	3.9	3.4	6.0	1,690	970	1,500	66	33	90
United States	135.1	136.4	213.0	1,557	1,221	1,515	2,103	1,665	3,228

¹ Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry. ² Estimates discontinued.

Crop Production, annual summary, SRS, USDA.



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FEBRUARY 1975

LIST OF TABLES

<i>Table</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page</i>
1	Potatoes: January 1 total stocks, by areas, United States	18
2	U.S. exports of dried edible beans by country of destination	18
3	Beans, dry edible: Production by commercial classes, 1969-74	18
4	Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Commercial acreage, production, and value for principal crops, 1972, 1973, and 1974	19
5	Vegetables, fresh: Representative wholesale prices (wholesale lot) sales at New York and Chicago for stocks of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available) indicated periods, 1973, 1974, and 1975	20
6	Vegetables, fresh: Average f.o.b. shipping point prices per hundredweight, United States, indicated periods, 1973, 1974, and January, 1975	20
7	Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States, by months	21
8	Vegetables for commercial processing: Acreage, production, and season average price per ton, 1972, 1973, and 1974	21
9	Vegetables, frozen: Cold storage holdings and indicated disappearance, Sept. 1 to Dec. 31	22
10	Fresh Vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and farm value per unit, sold in New York City, indicated months, 1973 and 1974	23
11	Potatoes, Irish: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, 1972, 1973, and 1974	23
12	Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, 1972, 1973, and 1974	24
13	Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, per hundredweight, U.S. No. 1 grade or better, indicated periods, 1973, 1974, and 1975	24
14	Canned vegetables: Commercial pack and canners' seasonal supply, shipments to January 1, stocks January 1, and total seasonal shipments, selected commodities	25
15	Sweetpotatoes: Price f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1973, 1974, and 1975	25
16	United States average prices received by farmers per hundredweight for important field crops, indicated periods, 1973, 1974, and 1975	26
17	Beans, dry edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, 1972, 1973, and 1974	26
18	Beans, dry edible: Production in selected States, by major types, United States, 1974 and total by types 1973	27
19	Peas, dry field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, 1972, 1973, and 1974	27